

MASON'S
O.K. SAUCE,
O.K. PICKLES,
MANGO CHUTNEY,
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SAUCE,
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TOMATO CATSUP.

Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

Registered as a Newspaper at the General
Post Office in the United Kingdom.

COME AND HEAR
WISEMAN'S
New Orchestra
4.30 and 7.30

[2417]

No. 18,851. 號一十五百八千八萬一第 日八十月九年午戊 HONGKONG, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 1918. 二拜禮 號二十二月十年七國民華中 Price, \$3 PER MONTH.

INTIMATIONS

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY
PORTLAND CEMENT.
In Casks 75 lbs. net.
In Bags 50 lbs. net.
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
General Managers. 1463

CAPE WHITE WINES.

DRAKENSTEIN
and
JAGGER CUP

Shipped by
J. SEDGWICK & CO., LTD.
CAPE TOWN.

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CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.

15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Telephone No. 75.

CARTRIDGES. ARRIVED!!!

A large consignment of
SPORTING CARTRIDGES, principally loaded
with E. O. Powder.

HONGKONG SPORTING ARMS AND
AMMUNITION STORE,
5-6, Beaconsfield Arcade. [1898]

A LING & CO.

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FURNITURE AND PHOTO GOODS
STORE
Photographic Goods of Every Description
In Stock.

Developing, Printing and Enlarging
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Telephone 1212. [1896]

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME-TABLE

WEEK DAYS	
7.00 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes
8.00	" " " " " " " "
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8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. 10 p.m. 11.00 p.m.
11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.
SUNDAYS.

SUNDAYS	
7.30 a.m.	to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes
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8.00 p.m. 8.30 p.m. 10 p.m. 11.00 p.m.
11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CASES by arrangement at the
Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings, 1, on
Yee Road Central.
Season and punch tickets available for all
cars not already full running at the time
stated in the Company's time-table, but not
for special cars, can be obtained on applica-
tion at the Company's Office. No Season
tickets will be issued until payment therefor
has been made in Bank Notes or by Cheque.
Comproducers Order representing Bank
Notes.

WHY D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers. 12248

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME-TABLE.

On and after MONDAY, 10th June, 1918, until further Notice.

DOWN TRAINS.

Stations		No. 6 Through Express a.m.	No. 7 Local a.m.	No. 8 Through Express a.m.	No. 11 Local a.m.	No. 17 Local p.m.	No. 13 Through Express p.m.	No. 17 Local p.m.	No. 18 Local p.m.	No. 11 Local p.m.	No. 12 Local p.m.
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WEBER PLANOS

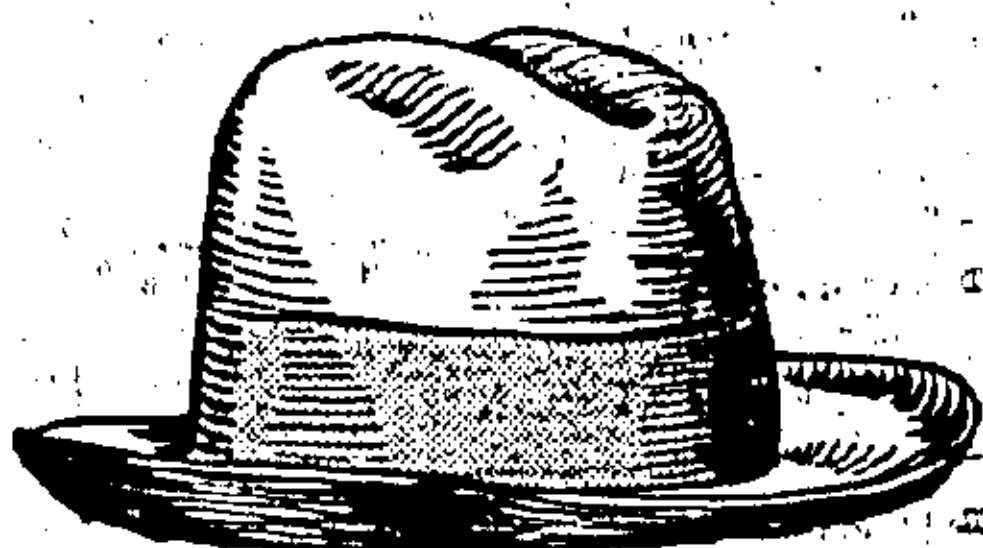
Artistic in finish, and combine
perfection of touch with
unequalled quality of tone.

SPECIALLY MANUFACTURED FOR THIS CLIMATE.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.

MOUTRIE'S

SOLE AGENTS.

HENRY HEATH HATS



are of marked distinction—distinction in fit and style—
distinction in quality of felt—distinction in all the little
niceties of workmanship that are demanded by discerning
men.

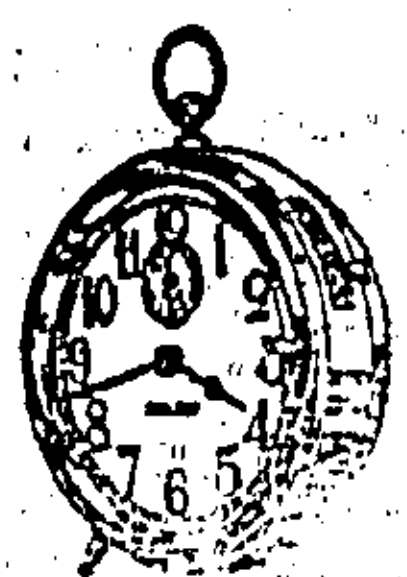
THE LATEST STYLES FOR AUTUMN AND WINTER NOW SHOWING AT

MACKINTOSH

& CO., LTD.

Men's Wear Specialists,
16, DES VŒUX ROAD. Telephone 29.

BIG BEN



THE NO. 1 ALARM CLOCK
SOLD EVERYWHERE.

FOOK LEE & Co.

Established 1871.

IRON & STEEL PRODUCTS, HOUSE & SHIPBUILDING
& ENGINEERING MATERIALS.

HEAD OFFICE: Nos. 2a, 2 & 4, Hillier Street. BRANCH OFFICE: York Building, Chater Road.
Phone 1174. Phone 1950.

PRICE SENT ON APPLICATION.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

"OUR DAY"

(Thursday, October 24th).

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

GATES OPEN AT 7.30 P.M.

RESERVED SEATS \$5.00 Each
For every \$5.00 ticket sold there
will be a seat provided. The
number is limited so buy your
tickets at once.

UNRESERVED SEATS \$2.00 Each
For a large number of seats in
the Gardens but not within the
reserved enclosure.

REFRESHMENTS will be very
kindly provided by the HONGKONG
HOTEL CO., LTD.

Tickets now on sale at—

MOUTRIE'S ANDERSON MUSIC CO.
and ROBINSON PIANO CO.

HONGKONG CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(BEFORE HIS HONOUR THE CHIEF JUSTICE (MR.
WILLIAM REES DAVIES, E.C.J.))

FORGERY ON A BANK DRAFT.

Fung Kam pleaded guilty to a charge
of forging the endorsement on a draft
on the Bank of Canton, for \$32.42,
and to uttering the draft in question.

The Attorney-General stated that the
draft had been made out in favour of a
Japanese named Cho Sen, who had
brought it with him from Canton to
Hongkong. He had the draft in his
pocket-book, which he dropped while
taking a walk in Kowloon on August
24th, only discovering his loss the next
morning. Nothing happened till Sept.
13th, when the prisoner presented the
draft at the bank. The endorsement was
signed in Chinese characters "Chan
Cheong Tee," the prisoner evidently
thinking that the name on the draft was
Chan Cheong Tee because the Japanese
characters for "Cho Sen," Esq. (the
Japanese in whose name the draft had
been made) were similar to the Chinese
characters for "Chan Cheong Tee." When
prisoner was charged at the Police
Station he admitted that he had picked
up the draft on the street. The Attorney-
General added that he did not think the
fraud was deliberately planned. The
pocket-book was found in a box in the
prisoner's house.

His Lordship asked the prisoner if he
had anything to say or anyone to speak
on his behalf.

The prisoner called his wife, who said
that her husband was ignorant of the
laws of the Colony. He picked up the
pocket-book in the street and did not
inform anyone that he had done so. She
asked that, in consideration of his ignor-
ance, he might be punished lightly. He
was a very good man and had never been
in trouble before.

His Lordship informed the prisoner
that he had pleaded guilty to a very
serious charge. The Attorney-General
had said, however, that there was prob-
ably no design on his part to commit
a fraud; he had just picked up the
draft and attempt to change it, never
thinking that he would be found out.
He hoped it would be a lesson to him.
He would deal very leniently with him
owing to the circumstances of the case.
He sentenced the prisoner to two years'
hard labour.

POVERTY LEADS TO CRIME.

Fong Kam pleaded guilty to forgery
on three bills of exchange (two from a
bank in Mexico on the Bank of Canton,
and one from a bank in California on the
Mercantile Bank). The sums involved
were \$100, \$25, and \$125.

The Attorney-General said that the
prisoner was employed in the Tai Fung
Cheung shop, Hongkong, and it was part
of his duty to go to the Post Office and
get letters addressed to the firm. More
than once he had got letters with drafts
in them; and he selected three drafts,
on one occasion, and, having put the
shop's chop on the back as an endorse-
ment, went to the bank and cashed them.
The prisoner had been employed in the
shop for 3 years, and as he was only
drawing a salary of \$2.50 per month, it
was unfortunate that he was given pos-
session, at times, of the firm's chop. The
prisoner had admitted his guilt at the
Police Station and also before the Magis-
trate. The only excuse he offered was
that he was driven to commit the offence
by poverty. Because of robbery in the
country, his aunt had come to stay with
him, and to prevent her from leading an
immoral life, he had to "keep her" well
supplied with money. He borrowed this,
and his creditors pressed for repayment.
Therefore he had to forge the drafts and
obtain the money, some of which he had
sent to his father and mother in the
country. He had been in indifferent
health and had to spend money on him-
self.

Ho Lin, the employer, was called.
After he had corroborated the statements
of the Attorney-General, His Lordship
pointed out to him the temptation he
had put in the prisoner's way by giving
a man who was only drawing \$2.50 a
month as salary possession of the firm's
chop. He asked the employer if he wish-
ed the punishment to be lenient. The
latter replied that he wished it to be
as severe as possible. It should not be
otherwise.

His Lordship said that the poverty of
the prisoner was no reason why he should
have committed the crime. The worst
of it was that there were three distinct
forgeries. It was a very bad case. The
only thing in his favour was that his
employer, who paid him only \$2.50 a
month, was not justified in trusting him
with the firm's chop. He sentenced the
prisoner to three years' hard labour on
each of the three counts, the sentences to
run concurrently.

A COWARDLY KIDNAPPER.

Mok Shing pleaded guilty to detaining
an eight-year-old Chinese boy with intent
to sell him.

The prisoner had three other similar
charges against him, which he denied,
and the Attorney-General said that, as
the prisoner had admitted the first charge,
he was willing to enter a *nolo prosequi*
in respect of the others.

In relating the facts of the case, the
Attorney-General said the prisoner was
found on the Kowloon-Canton railway
between Shum Chuen and Sam Shui on
September 28th, in the company of three
boys whom P. A. Mackie questioned. As a
result of the answers he received, he
arrested the man. From inquiries made

it was elicited that the prisoner had
approached the eldest of the three boys,
who was fourteen years of age, and asked
his help to kidnap a smaller boy and
bring the latter to Hongkong, where he
could be sold. The elder boy refused at
first, but afterwards agreed, and later
the two of them brought the other two
boys to Hongkong. Before the Magis-
trate the prisoner unblushingly stated
that he had brought the boy here with the
intention of selling him.

The prisoner had nothing to say.

His Lordship characterised the prison-
er's offence as a cowardly one. Prisoner
was bringing the children here for the
purpose of selling them, but, fortunately,
he was detected before he was able to
carry out his wicked purpose. His Lord-
ship said he could not too often point
out to men like the prisoner that if they
wished to do such things they should do
them in Canton, and not come to Hong-
kong for the purpose. He sentenced the
prisoner to seven years' hard labour and
to 10 strokes with the birch.

BRUTAL ASSAULT AND ROBBERY.

Wong Yau was indicted for having
robbed, with violence, an old Chinese
woman, and for having wounded two
Chinese women with intent to do serious
bodily harm.

The women, who were in Court, pre-
sented an undignified sight, and the
Attorney-General, in opening what he
termed a remarkable case, paid a high
tribute to the manner in which the
woman behaved after they had been most
brutally assaulted on a junk in the
harbour.

The following jury was empanelled:—
Messrs. F. W. Gibbons (foreman), P. M.
Gutierrez, A. S. G. de Silva, W. Ford, Y.
R. V. Ribeiro, A. H. Carroll, and C. M.
Soares.

The Attorney-General said that the
story of the case was a dramatic one. One
of the women had 13 wounds, 12 of which
were on the scalp; while the other woman
had 10 wounds, 9 of them on the scalp.
Both women were in serious danger of
their lives for over a week. It spoke
much for the stamina of the old woman,
who was over 50 years of age, that she was
able to pull through after having been
seriously injured. The daughter, though
bleeding profusely from 12 wounds,
managed to pull her mother up from the
cabin to the deck—a remarkable feat for
a girl. The prisoner, who was accom-
panied by another man, was struck on the
head with a long pole and had his skull
fractured by one of the other men in
the boat. He was able, however, to swim
a long distance to the shore and walk
away a considerable distance before he
collapsed. His companion in crime had
ruptured his liver and kidney, re-
ceived a fracture on the skull, and was
twice hit by some firearm, which, how-
ever, only inflicted a flesh wound. He
also had swum ashore and walked some
distance before he collapsed, but he died
on the morning after the assault as a
result of the injuries he had received.

The hero of the story, continued the
Attorney-General, was a man named
Wong Chan, who was sleeping on the
junk on the night of the assault (August
2nd), when the junk was lying off Sham-
sui-po. The prisoner and his fellow-
criminal were *fohis* on the junk, and it
was their mistress whom they attacked.

On the night in question Wong Chan was
sleeping in the quarters of the crew with
the prisoner, his accomplice, and a boy
of about 17. It was a dark and stormy
night, and the prisoner woke Wong Chan
up and asked him to take part in a rob-
bery of the mistress, who was sleeping in
a cabin in the after-part of the vessel.
The sons of the mistress were sleeping in
an adjoining cabin.

Wong Chan refused to join in the rob-
bery. Apparently the prisoner and his
friend were not good judges of character
when they thought he would keep quiet
about the robbery, for Wong Chan—who
by-the-way, was then only a visitor, but
has since been employed on the junk—
did not keep quiet. The prisoner and his
friend went on top and closed the hatch
leading to the crew's quarters by putting
a heavy coil of rope on it. Soon after
they went on deck. Wong Chan heard the
mistress of the junk call out "Save life."
He managed to get on deck and ran aft
and stood above the door to the women's
cabin. He saw the old woman and one
of the robbers come out. Witness struck
at the man. Exactly what happened
after this was hazy. It was only to be
expected that the witnesses would not
agree as to what had occurred.

It was a very dark and there was no
doubt that the robbers had counted on
this circumstance to help them.

When the robber was hit by Wong
Chan, he managed to go forward. The
other robber came out of the daughter's
cabin and Wong Chan struck at him,
also. The robber struck at Wong Chan
with a chopper which, fortunately, only
struck the long pole which Wong Chan
was carrying. After this, the alarm
being raised, the robbers were badly
knocked about. Both the robbers and the
people on the junk must have been dazed,
for no one knew when the robbers left the
junk.

The Police launch, which was on duty
in the vicinity, heard the sounds of the
struggle and hurried to the scene, only to
find the robbers gone. The Police took
the women to the hospital.

The prisoner's story, which, the
Attorney-General submitted, the jury
would have no difficulty in dismissing as
untrue—was that the mistress of the junk
owed the prisoner and his friend \$20, and
when they asked to be paid the mistress
son got excited and wanted to strike his
friend (now deceased). Prisoner inter-
fered and was struck himself. It was
incredible, said the Attorney-General,
that the boatmen should have chosen the
hour of 11 p.m. on a dark and stormy
night to ask their employers for wages.

Dr. C. W. McKenny, Superintendent
of the Government Civil Hospital, said
that he examined the two women on
August 3rd. Both of them were in a
collapsed condition owing to serious
wounds on their heads. The old woman
had 10 scalp wounds, one over the right
eye, and one on the left side of the face.
Two of the scalp wounds and the wound
over the left eyebrow extended down to
the skull. Her condition was very serious
for quite a week. The condition of the
younger woman, also, was very serious
when she was brought into Hospital. She
had six wounds on the scalp, one of which
went right into the skull, and one wound
on the right side of the forehead. Wit-
ness had to give them anaesthetics be-
fore sewing up the wounds. The pris-
oner, who was admitted the same day,
had a fracture on the base of the skull.
The other man who was brought in with
the prisoner, was in a very collapsed
condition, suffering from scalp wounds,
and died the same morning.

After hearing the evidence, the Jury
brought in a verdict of "guilty."

His Lordship, in passing sentence,
said it was fortunate the women did not
die, otherwise the prisoner would have
been charged with manslaughter, and the
punishment would have been imprison-
ment for life. Prisoner had committed a
very dastardly and grave crime, and was
not fit to mix with respectable society.
In Hongkong. People of prisoner's
character were not wanted here. Pris-
oner would be sentenced to four years'
hard labour on the charge of robbery,
and to ten years' hard labour and to
receive fifteen strokes with the "cat" on
the charge of wounding and cutting, the
sentences to run consecutively.

(BEFORE HIS HONOUR, THE PUENTE JUDGE
(MR. JUSTICE COMPERTZ.))

ARMED ROBBERY AT HUNGHEM.

Chun Wa, Chung Yau, Lam Cheung,
and Lau Kai were indicted for commit-
ting an armed robbery at Hunghem.

The following were the jury:—Messrs.
K. B. Macaskill, A. J. de Figueiredo,
J. Khan, J. M. Alves, G. Lee, L. A. V.
Ribeiro, and C. E. Seybt.

The Crown Solicitor, who prosecuted,
stated that the four prisoners entered
No. 157, Wuhu Street, Hunghem, at 9.30
p.m. on September 25th. The place was
being used as a grocery shop and a money-
changer's establishment. The master and
his *fohis* were in the shop when the men
entered. One of the prisoners was armed
with a revolver, which was hanging on
to his wrist by a piece of rope. This
man threatened the accountant and the
fohis, while his confederates took away
\$15 in subsidiary coins, and disappeared.

The Police, on being informed, searched
the neighbouring hills, but could not
find traces of the robbers. The Police at
Taunai were also informed, and several
constables were placed at the entrance to
the Yaumati-Kowloon City Road and
under the railway bridge at Yaumati.
A few hours after the robbery, the third
prisoner was noticed coming towards the
bridge. He was stopped and, in reply to
questions, stated that he was paying a
visit to a friend in Kowloon City. He
was arrested and taken to the Police
Station. A few minutes later the fourth
prisoner was seen coming in the direction
of the smallpox hospital. He had appar-
ently come down from the hillside, and had
several bruises on his body. He was
stopped by a constable, and five rolls of
50-cent pieces each were found in his
possession. These rolls were subsequently
identified by the complainant. At the
Police Station this prisoner made a
statement, as the result of which the first
and second prisoners were arrested in a
house at Shamshui. A constable met
the first prisoner on September 25th,
coming down from the hillside, and being
suspicious, called upon him to stop. The
man, however, commenced to run, and
the constable fired two shots. These did
not hit the prisoner, who disappeared
into a house in Kowloon Road. Near the
house the Police found a loaded revolver.

The fourth prisoner made a statement
at the Police Court, admitting that he
was invited by the first and third
prisoners and a man whom he was not
acquainted with to rob the house. The
second prisoner, however, made a curious
statement to the effect that the fourth
prisoner, who had not even mentioned the
second prisoner's name, had a quarrel
with him and was accusing him falsely.
The men, in every case, were covered
with bruises, proving that they had made
a hurried dash through the woods on the
hillside.

When the first witness was called for
the prosecution it was found that all the
witnesses were missing. Subsequently,
on the application of the Crown Solicitor,
the hearing was adjourned till the after-
noon.

Two of the Police witnesses identified
the first prisoner as one of the men seen
coming out of the house in Wuhu Street.
The second and third prisoners were not
identified by anyone. The fourth pris-
oner, when arrested, had the stolen
money in his possession.

The first prisoner, in his statement,
made allegations of cruelty against the
Police at Yaumati. He stated that when
he was arrested he was assaulted by the
Police at the Station and was rendered
unconscious. The Police subsequently
brought him to make him falsely accuse
people.

The second prisoner stated that he was
in bed when arrested. He, too, was
assaulted and burnt. Nobody recognised
him.

The third prisoner stated that he was
burnt and asked to give wrong informa-
tion. Being angry with the second pris-
oner at the time, he falsely accused him
of complicity in the robbery.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

SPORT.

BILLIARDS.

A large number of cueists assembled at
the Palace Hotel on Monday night to
witness an exhibition game between Mr.
J. Parkes, Hongkong and Whampoa
Docks, and J. Gibson, A. S. Watson &
Co. Much interest has been taken in this
game, as Gibson was an unknown quantity
in Hongkong. Both players started with
caution, and nothing of any note occurred
for some considerable time, although both
players were scoring 10-12 and 14 con-
sistently. Game was called:—Parkes,
200; Gibson, 191. The highest break up to
this point was 80 by Parkes, who then
took matters in hand and did most of the
scoring with breaks of 20, 24, and 28.
Gibson was playing a cool game, although
Parkes was 97 ahead when game was called
at Parkes, 369; Gibson, 272. From this
time the contest assumed a different
aspect, as Gibson came away with a
beautiful break of 41, followed by two
successive breaks of 24 and 20. He after-
wards put on 38, and eventually ran out
the winner by 40 points. The consistency
of the play is shown by the fact that 200
points were scored in two hours and
twenty minutes.

A billiard handicap is being arranged
at the Palace Hotel and those wishing to
enter are requested to forward their names
to the Proprietor, together with the
entrance fee of \$2. The first prize will be
a gold wrist-watch and band, which can
be seen at any time at the Hotel. Other
prizes will be presented.

EUROPEAN HOUSING IN SINGAPORE.

A LEAD FOR HONGKONG.

The *Straits Times* is glad to hear that
Messrs. Sandilands, Buttery & Co. are
taking a lead to the European firms of
Singapore, which, it is hoped, will
be largely followed. They have, it
appears, purchased a block of three acres
of the Cluny estate and intend building
immediately. "We very earnestly hope that
others will soon follow. The housing
question is becoming gravely serious, and
European firms which have the health and
happiness of their staffs at heart cannot
ignore it. Recently we gave the report of
the Housing Commission, but it will be
a long time before the Government takes
action, and the policy of Europeans build-
ing for Europeans is the only one that
gives promise of relief. The interest of
the firms in Singapore is permanent.
The interest of individuals is seldom suf-
ficiently permanent to make house building
attractive, and very few indeed of those
who reside here most urgently have the
necessary capital."

SINGAPORE O.C. BARS ENEMY SUBJECTS.

A special general meeting of the mem-
bers of the Singapore Cricket Club was
held in the Pavilion, recently, under the
presidency of Mr. D. Y. Park.

The Chairman proposed:—That the
following rules be added to the Rules
of the Club after Rule XV., viz:—XV.
(a) Any member who is or was on August
4th, 1914, a German, Austro-Hungarian,
Bulgarian, or Turkish subject shall cease
to be a member of the Club. XV. (b) No
German, Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian or
Turkish subject shall be eligible for elec-
tion as a member of the Club.

He said they did not feel inclined for
many years to come to extend the hand
of friendship to any of their enemies, not
on account of losses in fair fighting but
for the manner in which the enemy
had overthrown all instincts of humanity.
It might be that after the war Germans
and others would come to Singapore to
trade. That was not a matter upon which
they would have much to say, but that was
their own Club—a British Club—and they
could decide to whom they should extend
the privileges of membership.

Mr. O. E. Provis, in seconding the
resolution, said that perhaps many of
them had not had the same opportunities
as he had had of seeing what our enemies
had done. As to the ravages of the Ger-
mans, he had seen children in France with
their hands cut off. The wounding of the
resolution was all that could be desired.
The resolution was carried unanimously.

The fourth prisoner said he wished to
be a policeman but was advised by
friends to be a stone-cutter.

His Lordship: In view of the allega-
tions made by some of the prisoners
against the Police, I shall be glad to hear
Mr. King's evidence. I understand that
Mr. King was at the Police Station at the
time.

Mr. T. H. King, A.S.P., went into the
witness-box and denied the allegations.
He said none of the prisoners complained
to him of ill-treatment.

The first prisoner then remarked that
the Police, in their endeavour to earn
praise and a reward, had falsely accused
him.

His Lordship, in summing up, said
that there was no evidence at all against
the second prisoner, and nobody could
identify the third prisoner. The defence
was that the Police had trumped up the
charges against the prisoners. If it were
a trumped up case it was remarkable
that the Police did not go further and
get the men of the shop to identify the
prisoners by giving them a description of
the prisoners beforehand. If the Police
had gone the length of torturing the
prisoners by burning they surely would
be ingenious enough to get the prisoners
identified.

The Jury brought in a verdict of
"guilty" against the first and fourth
prisoners, and of "not guilty" as re-
gards the second and third.

His Honour: Anything against the
prisoners?

The Crown Solicitor: Nothing, except
that the fourth prisoner sent in an ap-
plication to be appointed a policeman.

His Lordship: The Police have had a
lucky escape. Second and third pris-
oners are discharged; first and fourth,
five years' hard labour.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—Whilst it is admitted on all sides that the housing problem is a pressing question, no concrete scheme has so far been presented for its solution. I therefore make no excuse for submitting, through the medium of the Press, the following suggestions for the consideration of employers in particular and of the public in general.

It is well-known that the present scarcity of residences is due to the large influx of Chinese into the Colony, owing to the disturbances in the neighbouring provinces of China. It is, however, to the interest of the Colony that the Chinese of the better-class should be encouraged to buy properties here and thus help to develop the Colony. The real solution of the whole problem would be for the European firms, both large and small, to follow the example of the Japanese firms and provide residences for the members of their European staffs. It must, however, be borne in mind that, instead of purchasing present buildings, as the Japanese are doing, new houses should be built upon new sites, which should be reserved, once and for all, for Europeans only, as otherwise the situation would soon again become aggravated.

If the leading banks and mercantile houses were to adopt a scheme forthwith a large number of houses would be built in the future, thereby considerably relieving the situation. It would also be possible for the Government to advance, say, a million dollars out of the funds in their hands at present at the rate of 6 per cent., and it is not too much to expect that the advances would be made only to the small firms, as the banks and leading companies in this Colony are quite capable of financing their own outlays. In the Hongkong Bank alone there are over forty European employees and about the same number is employed by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. There is nothing to prevent these two establishments adopting the scheme straightaway. They and all other employers could make it a point that all their employees receive no more increase for the next three or four years on the ground of understanding that free permanent quarters would be provided for them in the meantime in lieu of the usual increases. Should such a course be adopted in five years' time the majority of Europeans in the Colony would be provided, for all time, with good residences, rent free. In the case of small firms who cannot afford such an expenditure, they could borrow the money in their own names and lend it to their employees at a lower rate of interest, the difference being paid by the firms.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has already pointed out that the Government would be only too pleased to help, but it is out of the question to rely entirely on them. What the Government could do would be to develop new sites and offer them for sale at a low price, one of the conditions of sale being that houses must be built on the sites within 24 months and that at no time in future will it be possible for the present purchasers, or their assignees, to let the houses built on such sites for more than a certain fixed rent which must not exceed, say, 8 per cent. on the capital disbursed for the purchase of the land and the cost of the building. Such a condition should form part of the Crown Lease, because it is said that in the case of a large and well-known terrace in Hongkong, which is at present almost entirely in the occupation of Portuguese families, the original intention of the owner was that the rent for those houses should never exceed \$30 per month whereas it is to-day more than double and is being paid by those who can ill afford it.

The clerks in the employment of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and several other firms have already large amounts in their Provident Fund, and the money so standing to their credit could be utilised as a margin to defray the cost of the new houses, which would be erected to their own designs and according to their requirements and wishes. The houses would become the property of the employees after they had paid off the mortgage in full, but they should not be permitted to dispose of the property without their employers' consent while they remain so employed.

The Government are providing free quarters for their European officers or giving allowances in lieu thereof. One of the conditions of the latter scheme is, however, that if an officer occupies only part of a house, or shares it with anyone else, or resides in a hotel or a boarding-house, he forfeits the allowance. This condition obliges every Government officer to occupy a house by himself, even though it may be too big for him, thereby creating a larger demand for houses. All allowances should be abolished as soon as possible and free quarters provided.

The Naval and Military Authorities are also housing some of their officers in married quarters built for the purpose, but they should be urged to erect Government houses for all their European employees, specially for the civilians in their employment, as these are, often, more than permanent residents.

One of the principal and most important points to be first dealt with would be for the Colony's financiers to work in conjunction with the Government, to raise the necessary money by a public loan against the Revenue of the Colony, and necessary so as to establish a Building Fund to be administered by a Committee of business men. The necessary money for building purposes could then be advanced to employers from the General Fund on a margin of only 10 per cent. and a rate of interest not exceeding 6 per cent.

There would be some difficulty in the application of the scheme to all the European employees, but the obstacles encountered in a few individual cases should not prevent the adoption of a feasible and practical solution of the housing problem, which is becoming more acute day by day.

There are a large number of suitable sites, above and below May, Bowen, and Kennedy Roads for the European community.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

THE LATE SIR HENRY BERKELEY.

TRIBUTES TO HIS MEMORY AT THE SUPREME COURT

Yesterday morning, before the ordinary work of the October Criminal Sessions began, the Chief Justice (Sir William Rees-Davies, K.C.), made sympathetic reference to the death of Sir Henry Berkeley, at one time Attorney-General of Hongkong. Sitting with his lordship on the Bench was His Honour the Puisne Judge, (Mr. Justice Gompertz).

Addressing those present the Chief Justice said: Since the court was last in session, Sir Henry Berkeley has passed away, and it is fitting that this unhappy event should not pass unnoticed. After being Attorney-General and Chief Justice of Fiji, Sir Henry Berkeley came to Hongkong as Attorney-General, in 1909—an office which he held for four years.

On his retirement from office he continued to practice in this court for some years, being engaged in many of the most important cases at that time. Sir Henry was an advocate of great power and charm. He was chivalrous to a degree, and was possessed of an old-world courtesy, rare in the sordid age in which we are living. A staunch friend, he had no enemy.

To his many friends in Hongkong it is pleasing to note that the closing years of his life were given largely to useful public work at home, and that they were crowned, we believe, with every domestic happiness. I am sure that the legal profession, to which he was so attached, desires to place its chapter on his tomb.

The Puisne Justice: I desire to associate myself with the words which have fallen from the Chief Justice. I had the privilege of knowing Sir Henry Berkeley from the first day of his arrival in the Colony, and I also knew his family intimately. I am sure that not only the whole profession but also the whole community will agree with us in expressing our deep and heartfelt sympathy with his family.

The Attorney-General: May I add one word to those fallen from the lips of your Lordship? It is my desire, on behalf both of the Bar and of the Government Service, to offer to Lady Berkeley and family, our deepest sympathy in their bereavement, and to express our own sense of loss on the death of one who by his geniality, courtesy, and kindness endeared himself to all who came into contact with him.

The work of the court was then proceeded with.

manity, and sites are also available in Kowloon within easy reach of the new ferries to Shamshuipo. A public meeting should at once be convened and a Committee appointed more or less as follows:—

Mr. N. J. Stabb, or his nominee, to represent the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, to advise on the financial aspect of the scheme.

One of the leading architects of the Colony.

Mr. L. N. Leefe and Mr. R. Shewan as representatives of employers and the commercial community in general.

Mr. A. B. Lowe as a Chartered Accountant.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper as representing vested interests in the Colony, and Mr. J. P. Briggs to represent the Portuguese community, who are the greatest sufferers in this connection.

As the unofficial members of the Legislative Council have too many calls on their time, it would be well for them not to be appointed; they could very well express their opinions through the other members with whom they are in constant touch.

All meetings of the Committee should be held in public, and it should be open to anyone to address the Committee or to send them suggestions in writing. Meetings should be advertised at least one week ahead, and the Director of Public Works should be present to furnish whatever information may be required, on the understanding that he would not be committing the Government in any way whatever.

After a series of three or four meetings, every aspect of the scheme would have been thoroughly discussed, and the Committee could then meet in private to prepare their report and recommendations. To put the matter on a business footing, a paid Secretary and a shorthand reporter should be engaged, as there would probably be no difficulty whatever in raising the necessary funds from our leading residents, who are certainly public-spirited enough to contribute towards such a worthy cause.

The above are the broad outlines of the scheme, and it is, of course, recognised that it is far from being complete and will have to be considerably modified after due discussion. The need for immediate action is, however, pressing, and it would be well for a meeting to be convened without further delay by the Press, as representing the public. All that is required is to arrange beforehand for several representative speakers to address the meeting. Trusting that this letter will help to bring about a much desired solution of the problem.—Yours, etc.,

X. Y. Z.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1918.

HONGKONG C. C. P.

CRAIGENGOWER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—With reference to the report of the Cricket match against Craigengower, I beg to inform you that the result was not a "draw," but a win for the Club. It is a pity Craigengower thought fit to close their innings at the fall of the ninth wicket, as they only required six runs more.—Yours faithfully,

M. HODGSON.

(Hon. Secretary, H.K.C.C.)

22nd Oct. 1918.

[Our mistake was shared by some, at least, of those playing in the match.—Ed. H.D.P.]

MR. E. I. EZRA FINED \$2,000

CHARGE UNDER THE PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION ACT.

MR. F. C. JENKIN APPEARS FOR DEFENDANT.

The case in which Mr. Ellis I. Ezra was charged with bribing a Chinese employee of the Standard Oil Company, in Shanghai, with \$200, in order to obtain possession of one of the Company's launches, came up for hearing at the Supreme Court, Shanghai, on October 15th, before His Honour Judge Sir Haviland de Saumarez.

The Jury was composed of Messrs. F. B. Pitcairn, P. A. H. Chambers, C. J. G. Hill, T. Cock and L. McIntyre.

It will be remembered that the launch was requisitioned in order that the Ezras might facilitate the service of a writ on Mr. Eugene Chen in connection with certain legal proceedings and so prevent his contemplated voyage to America. Mr. Eugene Chen was supposed to be on board a vessel at Woosung. During the trip the launch went aground and was considerably damaged.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, with Mr. S. Fawcett, presented, and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master, defended.

Capt. W. I. Eisler, marine superintendent for the Standard Oil Co. in North China said that his duty was the care of the Company's launches. All the Chinese launch staff was under witness's control. The Company did not make a practice of hiring the launches. On September 10th an application was made to borrow or hire a launch by a reporter of the Shanghai Gazette to make two trips, one in the afternoon and the second at night. Witness told him he could not accommodate him.

In answer to Mr. Jenkin: No application was made to him by the Ezras that day for the use of a launch. On the morning of September 11th, the defendant telephoned to him and said he had sent a party down to Woosung to apprehend Mr. Eugene Chen and that he had received a telephone message that the launch had gone to the breakwater. If they took immediate steps to pull the launch off it would be all right. The defendant said he would be responsible for the damage.

Witness said: "What did you take our launch for?" and the defendant replied "I did not know it was your launch." "How do you know now?" asked witness. "Because Krikel has telephoned it was a Standard Oil launch."

Witness said it was bruited around Shanghai and he had heard it in the clubs that he had endeavored to obtain a launch for a friend that day and it was said that because he could not get the launch from the Tug and Lighter Co., he had lent the Meifoo IV, and had pocketed the \$200. Witness said it was, of course, not true, though it had necessitated his making explanations in a good many quarters.

Defendant in the witness-box said that on September 10th he met the tender *Alexandra* on her return at about 10 p.m. A second visit to the *China* was suggested by Mr. Krikel to search for Mr. Chen. Witness tried to hire the *Alexandra* but was unsuccessful, as part of the crew and the officer in charge had gone. One of the crew said he could hire a launch and witness went to the Customs examination office and seeing a foreigner there, asked if it was possible to get a police launch. He was told it was impossible. Witness returned to the *Alexandra* when a Chinese came and said there was a launch available at the French Bund jetty. Gensburger went for Sgt. Woodfield and the party all met at the jetty. The launch was pointed out to witness and \$250 was asked for hire, but eventually \$200 was agreed upon. Witness had no money on him but offered the launch a check on which the money could be collected the next day. This was refused and as there was no money amongst the party Gensburger went off to obtain some. Woodfield thought the price agreed was too high. Eventually the launch was refused and it was suggested they should go to the Chinese Bund. They got into their cars and the front one for some unknown reason went to the Nanking Road jetty. The attempt to get a motor boat at that jetty also failed. They then decided to give the attempt up and they were leaving the jetty when some Chinese came up and said they had a launch at Canton Road jetty. There they saw a launch. The launch, or some body, said they were willing to go. Woodfield and Hope jumped aboard and there was a discussion as to who else should go. Eventually Mr. Krikel went. Woodfield did not draw witness's attention to the fact it was a Standard Oil launch nor did anybody suggest that what they were doing was at all improper.

At the French jetty Gensburger handed the money to Woodfield who passed it to the go-between. He did not know what happened to the money after it was handed to the Chinese.

He first learned the launch belonged to the Standard Oil Co. when Mr. Krikel telephoned the next morning from Woosung. He telephoned to Capt. Eisler reporting this and offered to pay for the damage. (It taking the launch witness did not consider he was doing anything unlawful. He did not think he was doing anything wrong; he regarded it as an ordinary hiring.)

Witness denied that he was in charge of the party on the night in question; he was only interested in the warrant being served on Chen because of his brother, who was really the interested party in that matter. He (witness) took probably an active part in trying to stop the Shanghai Gazette from continuing as it was.

In summing up the case for the prosecution, Counsel reminded the jury of the law on the subject and recalled the facts of the case as shown by the evidence for the prosecution. He urged that the rebuttals that the defendant had met with during his endeavours to obtain a launch should have been sufficient warning to him that his attempts to hire did not amount to hiring in the ordinary way. Counsel was not going to suggest that the defendant went to The Bund knowing in his own mind that he was going to break a certain section of the Prevention of Corruption Act, but when he got there he was determined to procure a launch; he was prepared to take what launch he could get and he was prepared to pay \$200 for it.

Mr. Jenkin replying for the defence commended to the jury the evidence of Sgt. Woodfield, whose evidence with that of the defendant, was, he said, the only testimony that mattered. Counsel reviewed the evidence of the police officer and showed that the sergeant was of the opinion at the time of the hiring that it was quite an ordinary transaction in which he could see nothing wrong. Again everything that the accused did was done openly. The discussions with the Chinese go-between were perfectly open and none of the party ever dreamed that as a result of what was being done one of them was long facing a criminal charge. If the jury thought on Sgt. Woodfield's evidence that the impression amongst the party that night was that they were doing no wrong and that they were hiring a launch in the ordinary way, could they find any difference in his state of mind that evening and that of the accused? Counsel pointed out the defendant had never made any pretence either in the court or in the court below that he did not know the marks on a Standard Oil Co. launch. He had been frank in his statements to the jury and he claimed that his evidence was such as could be believed by any reasonable man.

His Lordship, in summing up, said that the position taken up by the Crown was that the defendant had been guilty of an offence against a section of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1906, because he had corruptly given, either himself or agreed to give \$200 to the launch of the steam launch as an inducement to do something not in relation to his employers' business—giving him money to take a party down to Woosung.

His Lordship reviewed the evidence and said that the defendant was connected with the matter by handing over the money with which the launch was to be hired. He had not come down to The Bund with money to hire a launch; and when it was found that a launch could not be obtained without hard cash, the money had to be obtained. Probably that ought to have put the members of the party on inquiry. His Lordship went on to say that there was nothing in the evidence which could directly connect the accused with the launch. On the evidence which was before them the jury had to say affirmatively that the accused at the time of hiring the launch had in his mind an intention to commit a corrupt act. They had to be satisfied that he was determined to take anything that came along whether it was obtained corruptly or innocently, that it was in his mind that he might have to take a launch the launch of which had been bribed. That was the least they would have to find to justify them in finding the prisoner guilty. They were entitled to consider the surrounding facts, but they had to answer affirmatively that they were satisfied beyond any reasonable doubt that such was the case. His Lordship then proceeded to look at the conduct of the accused on that night from a point of view which had occurred to him as one in which he might have dealt with the case if it had been before him when giving judgment in a civil case. The accused came to The Bund without any money at 10 o'clock, expecting the *Alexandra* would come in and that it would bring with it Mr. Eugene Chen. He had not thought of the necessity of getting a launch at all, when he discovered that Mr. Chen had not been found. He or his lawyer determined to make an effort. They endeavored to hire the *Alexandra* without success. Then they tried to obtain one through the Customs house. Still the idea was to get a launch from the proper authorities and they failed. The question would then arise at what time after that did the idea come into the mind of the defendant that he would, if necessary, take a launch to let him have a launch? That is, it was clear that he had not come to that conclusion before he went to the French Bund because there he gave his name. Then money was obtained and the question rose when did he change his mind and decide that he would take, if necessary, a criminal course? He might have thought it was a venial thing, to bribe a Chinese, but it was not so. The fact that it was not so and that bribery ought to be put a stop to was no reason for committing a man to prison, but he must be careful and be guided by the evidence. Within ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, defendant must have changed his mind. Was there sufficient evidence in the case to justify them in saying that he did so change his mind? If there was, then they would find the prisoner guilty; if there was not, they would acquit him.

The jury retired for 15 minutes at the end of which time they returned a verdict finding the accused guilty of the charge.

His Lordship: You have been convicted of offering a bribe to the launch of a launch. I think it is well that it should be clearly understood that an enactment, such as that under which you are convicted, is one which may be of great value to us now, because the temptation to take property out of the hands of a Chinese and the facility with which that may be done at no considerable expense renders it a crime which should be carefully guarded against. I cannot feel that yours is an aggravated case because it seems that this could not have been long premeditated. The matter is one which must have come to your mind shortly before its execution. In those circumstances I do not think it is necessary to inflict sentence of imprisonment, but I shall order you to pay a fine of \$2,000.

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No. 21, Des Voeux Road, WING, HONGKONG.

THE WAR.

GERMANY ORDERS CESSATION OF SUBMARINISM.

CONTRADICTORY REPORTS REGARDING GERMANY'S NEXT NOTE.

HUNGARY DEMANDS COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE OF AUSTRIA.

THE LIBERATION OF BELGIUM CONTINUES.

BRITISH ARMY NEARING THE SCHELDT.

GENERAL.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CENTRAL POWERS' APPEALS FOR PEACE.

GERMANY CLIMBING DOWN.

AMSTERDAM, October 20th.

A telegram from Amsterdam dated October 20th states that it is reported that the German reply to President Wilson was handed to the Swiss Minister in Berlin yesterday.

In the reply Germany declares her willingness, provisionally, to stop submarine warfare, in order to advance peace.

GERMAN SUBMARINES ORDERED HOME.

MADRID, October 20th.

The newspapers state that Germany has informed Spain that the German Admiralty has ordered the submarines to return to their bases immediately.

A BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

AMSTERDAM, October 20th.

A telegram from Berlin forecasts that the German reply to President Wilson will assert that President Wilson's Note takes into account that the *Entente* expectations are not acceptable. The conditions for evacuation are therefore not fit for discussion. Germany, however, is ready to find a basis for further discussion.

WILL GERMANY SUBMIT?

AMSTERDAM, October 20th.

A telegram from Berlin states that the reply to President Wilson has been delayed owing to differences of opinion at the last moment. Forecasts of the reply published in Berlin declare that it will protest against the very strong accusations of cruelty, and justify submarine warfare as a reprisal for the starvation of the people owing to the blockade. These indicate that Germany will not submit to a peace destructive to her future.

DANISH NOTE TO GERMANY.

AMSTERDAM, October 20th.

It appears that Denmark has sent a Note to Germany proposing that Article Five of the Treaty of 1864, providing for a plebiscite in Schleswig to discover whether the inhabitants prefer allegiance to Germany or to Denmark should now be carried out.

EARLIER CABLES.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S REPLY TO AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

WASHINGTON, October 18th.

The Secretary of State to-day made public the following:

[From the Minister of Sweden to the Secretary of State.]

Washington, D.C., October 7th, 1918.

YOUR EXCELLENCY:—By order of my Government I have the honour confidentially to transmit herewith to you the following communication of the Imperial and Royal Government of Austria-Hungary to the President of the United States of America:—“The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, which has waged war always and solely as a defensive war and repeatedly given documentary evidence of its readiness to stop the shedding of blood and to arrive at a just and honourable peace, hereby addresses itself to his Lordship the President of the United States of America and offers to conclude with him and his Allies an Armistice on every front on land, at sea and in the air, and to enter immediately upon negotiations for a peace for which the Fourteen Points in the Message of President Wilson to Congress of January 8th, 1918, and the Four Points in President Wilson's Address of February 12th, 1918, should serve as a foundation, and in which the viewpoints declared by President Wilson in his Address of September 27th, 1918, will also be taken into account.”

(Signed) W. A. F. EXNER.

[From the Secretary of State to the Minister of Sweden.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

October 18th, 1918.

SIR:—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Note of the 7th inst., in which you transmit a communication of the Imperial and Royal Government of Austria-Hungary to the President.

I am now instructed by the President to request you to be good enough through your Government to convey to the Imperial and Royal Government the following reply:—

The President deems it his duty to say to the Austro-Hungarian Government that he cannot entertain the present suggestions of that Government because of certain events of the utmost importance which, occurring since the delivery of his Address of the 8th of January last, have necessarily altered the attitude and responsibility of the Government of the United States.

Among the Fourteen Terms of Peace which the President formulated at the time occurred the following:—

“The peoples of Austria-Hungary, whose place among the nations we wish to see safeguarded and assured, should be accorded the freest opportunity of autonomous development.”

Since that sentence was written and uttered to the Congress of the United States, the Government of the United States has recognized that a state of belligerency exists between the Czechoslovaks and the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires, and that the Czechoslovak National Council is a *de facto* belligerent Government clothed with proper authority to direct the military and political affairs of the Czechoslovaks. It has also recognized in the fullest manner the justice of the nationalistic aspirations of the Jugo-Slavs for freedom.

The President is, therefore, no longer at liberty to accept a mere “autonomy” of these peoples as a basis of peace, but is obliged to insist that they, and not he, shall be the judges of what action on the part of the Austro-Hungarian Government will satisfy their aspirations and their conception of their rights and destiny as members of the Family of Nations.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) ROBERT LANSING.

—Pacific Service.

MILITARY COMMAND IN GERMANY AGAIN?

LONDON, October 18th.

A Havas message states that the German Note, in reply to President Wilson, has been deferred.

Admiral von Scheer and General von Hindenburg have arrived in Berlin.

Possibly the military have succeeded in getting command of the situation.

GERMANY'S NEXT REPLY.

AMSTERDAM, October 18th.

A telegram from Berlin states that the Government, to-night, discussed the final form of the German reply to President Wilson. The note will probably be despatched on the afternoon of October 19th.

A COLD DOUCHE ON THE HOPE OF PEACE.

PARIS, October 18th.

A Havas message says:—

The German papers point out that President Wilson's Note throws a cold douche on the hope of peace engendered by the first Note.

In spite of this the German Government will try to gain time by the discussion of terms for an armistice.

The Associated Press says that General von Hindenburg insisted on an armistice, owing to the desperate condition of the German Army and the exhaustion of raw materials.

The German Press says that President Wilson's language is arrogant and insulting.

MORE STRIKES IN GERMANY.

LONDON, October 19th.

A Havas message says:—

Information from Berlin states that the men and women employed in munition work have laid down their tools and struck work.

LATER.

French opinion admits that the reports of disagreements between the military and the Reichstag, and of strikes and disorders in Germany must be received with great caution.

REICHSTAG MEETING TO-DAY.

AMSTERDAM, October 18th.

A telegram from Berlin states that the Reichstag meets on October 22nd.

“WE HAVE LOST THE WAR.”

AMSTERDAM, October 19th.

A telegram from Budapest states that in the Lower House, Count Tisza, the Premier, said:—

“We must frankly admit we have lost the war. The task now is to get an advantageous peace as soon as possible.”

LATEST CABLES.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN AFFAIRS.

COMPLETE DISUNION DEMANDED.

LONDON, October 20th.

A telegram from Budapest states that in the Lower House Count Karolyi moved a resolution demanding economic, military and foreign political disunion of Hungary from Austria.

WANTED—AN INDEPENDENT HUNGARY.

AMSTERDAM, October 20th.

A telegram from Budapest states that after Count Tisza's speech, the address of the King was read in the Diet, declaring that the result of the war endangered the throne, and adding that Hungary must be completely independent.

Count Karolyi said that the Session was the funeral feast of the Delegation because the public demanded an Independent Hungary. He said that the Monarchy's foreign policy was responsible for the war, and that the Hungarian troops in Hungary must be withdrawn.

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Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

THE FIGHTING NEAR LE CATEAU.

LONDON, October 20th.

Sir Douglas Haig states:—

Early this morning we attacked the enemy's positions on the line of the Selle River, north of Le Cateau, and crossed the river, in spite of considerable opposition.

Further north, the advance continued yesterday afternoon and evening.

We completed the capture of Denain, and reached a general line as follows:—

Heveluy, Wandignies, Hamage, Brillep and Beuvry.

The enemy's resistance is increasing on this front.

ADVANCE ON THE OISE—LE CATEAU FRONT RENEWED.

LONDON, October 20th.

Sir Douglas Haig states:—

The Anglo-American forces this morning, operating in conjunction with the French between the Oise and Le Cateau, successfully renewed their advance.

We reached the west bank of the Sambre and the Oise Canal north of Oisy, and have taken possession of the high ground west of Catillon.

In the operations during the past three days in this sector General Rawlinson's Fourth Army completed an advance of from five to eight miles across difficult country, which the enemy defended with tenacity.

Having driven the enemy on the first day of their attack from strong positions on the right bank of the Selle River, by determined and persistent fighting, they successfully cleared the whole of the high ground east of the river line, capturing many villages in the course of their advance and taking over 5,000 prisoners and a number of guns.

BRITISH CAPTURE DENAIN.

LONDON, October 20th.

The enemy commenced to withdraw to the north of the Cambrai-Bavai Road.

We occupied Saultoir and progress was made towards Denain from the south.

North of the Sambre Canal, we have already entered Denain and reached Escauden and Somain.

On the left, the Eighth Division has taken Marchiennes, and during the past ten days, in the course of an advance of over 18 miles, they took several hundred prisoners.

Further to the north, we steadily continue to advance and have reached a general line as follows:—Orchies, Courbiex, Bourghelles, Templeuve, south-east of Roubaix, Nechin.

We shot down three hostile machines. Two were driven down out of control.

Our night-fliers, in spite of mist, dropped 31 tons on the railways and the lines of communication. All returned.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICANS.

LONDON, October 20th.

Sir Douglas Haig, in a special despatch detailing the operations of the 27th and 30th American Divisions operating with the Fourth British Army in the past three weeks, says that in the course of the fighting they displayed soldierly qualities of a high order, and materially assisted in the success of our attacks, especially in breaking the Hindenburg line on September 28th when they fought with utmost dash and bravery, and captured Bellicourt and Nauroy, taking a number of prisoners.

ALLIES' ADVANCE ALMOST TO THE SCHELDT.

LONDON, October 20th.

A Belgian communiqué states:—

The French line has reached Hullevalcat and along the Lys to Gramme, Goltbein and Wielebeke.

The Second British Army has completely cleared up Courtrai and advanced six kilometres east of the town.

In the south they reached the Courtrai-Tournai Road, and although the enemy had destroyed all communications, they advanced almost to the Scheldt.

Since the beginning of the operations in Flanders the group of Armies advanced on 80 kilometres front. Sixty kilometres of the Flanders Coast has been completely liberated, also the whole of Western Flanders.

BELGIAN TROOPS REACH THE DUTCH FRONTIER.

LONDON, October 20th.

A Belgian communiqué states:—

The British, Belgian and French Armies commanded by King Albert today developed the results of the last six days.

The Belgians occupied Zebrugge, Heyst and stormed Brugge.

Elsewhere, the Belgians crossed the Bruges-Ghent Canal.

Their left reached the Dutch frontier. Their right is at Aeltre, half-way from Brugge to Ghent.

The French carried Thielt, and the adjoining high ground, in spite of the stubborn resistance of the enemy who endeavoured to bar the way to Lys.

BRUGES—GHENT CANAL PASSED.

LONDON, October 20th.

PREMIER'S TRIBUTE TO MR. GOMPERTS.

Hearty tributes to the valuable services rendered by Mr. Samuel Gompers to the cause for which the Allies are battling were paid by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Labour, and the Earl of Reading, at a luncheon at the Carlton Hotel, when the President of the American Federation of Labour and his colleagues of the Labour Mission from the United States were entertained by the Government. The numerous company which assembled to meet the visitors, under the presidency of Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., Labour member of the War Cabinet, was of a representative character.

Mr. Lloyd George, proposing "Our Guests," said Mr. Samuel Gompers' name is one of the few international names—one of the few names which is as well known in other countries as it is in his own. If I may say so, he is as well known as the Mississippi. (Laughter and cheers.) I think I may claim him almost as a kindred spirit. He was one of the very few people who approved of me before the war—(laughter)—and therefore to me his presence here is doubly welcome. He and I have very largely the same ideals. We can say that we are fighting the same battle, and he and I since the war came have forgiven in a true Christian spirit the people who were suspicious of us—(laughter)—and we are fully prepared to co-operate with them for the attainment of ideals we have always fought for.

LABOUR AND THE WAR.

Mr. Gompers has devoted his life and his great abilities to democratic progress. He is fighting the same battle now in the war as he was fighting before. (Cheers.) It is not that he has changed his mind. It is not that he has changed his direction. It is not that he has altered his purpose. It is not that he has started a new career. He is pursuing the same career now, he is climbing towards the same ideals, he is struggling for the same aims as he devoted his long and honourable career to before the war. (Cheers.) In this war men of all classes have contributed. (Hear, hear.) They have contributed in the sacrifices; they have contributed in suffering. There has been no distinction of classes in this land during the war, either in intention, in action, or in endurance. (Cheers.) For all that I say, without any hesitation, that victory in this war—and I am sure Mr. Gompers will agree with me—means more to those who have to get their bread by the sweat of their brow than it does for any other class.

Before the war German labour was becoming more and more convinced that it could never attain its ideals or achieve the emancipation of the class it represented without overthrowing the domination of Prussian militarism. Each election demonstrated that that force was deepening and broadening in Germany. But they failed. The task which they failed to accomplish by pacific means was endeavoured to achieve by other means in this great war. We are achieving for them not merely security to the world against the menace which they suffered from, but we are achieving emancipation from the bondage which they endured. It was becoming more and more intolerable to them year by year. It was becoming so intolerable to them that it was obvious to every man who saw what was going on in Germany that if it had gone on for several years you would have had an uprising which would have overthrown all military domination. That is why we are at war to-day.

If that class which made war were to succeed the condition of the working classes in Germany would be worse. But not merely that. That domination would sweep beyond the frontiers of Germany and extend to all parts of the world. That is why we find the leaders of Labour in every country and continent throwing the whole of their strength into the attainment of victory. You could have no more genuine proof of the conviction of those who are prosecuting the war, not merely that it is in the interests of the working classes themselves that you should secure victory, but that the working classes themselves know and understand that fact, that during the war we have in this country doubled the power of the working classes, and those who are most afraid of asking the question whether the war should be prosecuted with all the vigour and power of the nation are not those who know Labour best. Our guests come from a land whose passion for liberty is as deep as the ocean that washes its shores, as wide as the great plains of that continent, as restless as the mighty sweep of its rivers. That passion for liberty is concentrated in the great efforts which they are making, and amongst those who have assisted in making the effort of America a real one, in bringing the working-class population of America to a realization of the danger to its ideals, none has rendered greater service than Mr. Samuel Gompers. On behalf of you who are present here, and the country to which we belong and the Empire, and on behalf of the whole of the Allies, we welcome him and his colleagues. (Cheers.)

AMERICA'S DETERMINATION.

Mr. G. H. Roberts, supporting the toast, said they were glad of the presence of Sam Gompers and his colleagues, because they were in no doubt whatever respecting their attitude. "Sam" has never yet received encouraging replies from enemy countries—(Hear, hear, and laughter)—because the enemy knows full well that he represents the American people and their determination to have no parleying with enemy representatives until victory has been attained, and their Government are in a position to negotiate a clean and enduring peace," said Mr. Roberts. We know that the contact of

BEHIND THE ADVANCE.

VAST ORGANISATION REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN SUPPLIES.

[BY COMPANY COMMANDER.]

Successful organisation in the rear is one of the main essentials when an army is on the advance. The people who talk so glibly of driving the Germans back to their Fatherland have little conception of the stupendous amount of preliminary arrangement necessary to ensure that the troops moving forward shall be properly supplied with food and munitions.

A never-to-be-forgotten sight is the spectacle of an army advancing after the infantry has swept onward, clearing up the enemy in their progress—every road in the neighbourhood crammed to suffocation with horse and motor transport, infantry marching up in support resting by the wayside, field artillery hastily overploughed fields to the nearest road, occasional shots—mostly shrapnel—which the retreating enemy batteries send over on the off-chance of hitting something, and, added to it all, the confusion of the night.

Army organisation is a wonderful process, the development of centuries. Issued originally from army headquarters, the orders percolate from corps to division, from division to brigade, from brigade to battalion, from battalion to company, and so on to the smallest section. Is it any wonder that things go wrong occasionally?

BULLY AND BISCUIT.

Primarily, of course, come food, water, and ammunition. The first line transport of an infantry battalion undergoes a most strenuous trial in keeping touch with the supply officer of the division, on whom devolves the task of supplying the food. Often it happens that the "bully and biscuit" goes astray. Sometimes the forward "dump" has the misfortune to be struck by a shell, occasionally the roads are absolutely impassable.

The splendid Allied successes are very largely due to the organisation in the rear of the advancing infantry. Open warfare requires rapid movement of transport, for in many cases the objective of a unit may be five or six miles distant. We have done for ever with the wasteful practice of allowing men to drift on and on, as the north countrymen drifted away among the slingshots of Loos and Hulluch, never to be seen again.

Modern warfare is organisation, first, last, and all the time. Wounded are picked up, the dead buried, and forward dressing stations established in what, twenty-four hours previously, was German territory—and all by organisation. It is in this respect that the Americans are so valuable to the Allied cause. The "Yank" is a born organiser, and possesses a capacity for getting things done truly marvellous even in these days. —Daily Express.

Our guests with patriotic labour in this country will help us to defeat the efforts of those who would trick us into meeting with enemy subjects. I have always opposed manoeuvres of that character, because I believe that Stockholm and other devices are inspired by the German Government, and I am sure that they would not allow passports to any except those they can regard as absolutely safe from their point of view. Surely those who are safe from the point of view of the Kaiser and the Junker class must be opposed to any democratic aspirations that we entertain. (Cheers.)

THE DECLARATION OF AMERICAN LABOUR.

Mr. Samuel Gompers, replying to the toast, read a declaration made by the representatives of organised Labour in America on March 12th, 1917, nearly a month before America's entry into the war, and which declaration Mr. Gompers said it was believed had much influence in assuring the President that the toilers would stand behind him and the Government in whatever course was taken. After laying down the fundamental principles of right and justice, the declaration said: "We hereby pledge ourselves, in peace or in war, to stand unreservedly by the standards of liberty and the safety and preservation of the institutions and ideals of our Republic. Should our country be thrown into the maelstrom of a European conflict, we offer our services to our country in every field of activity, to defend, safeguard, and preserve the Republic against its enemies, whoseover they may be, and we call upon our fellow-workers and fellow citizens, in the holy name of liberty, justice, freedom, and humanity, to devotedly and patriotically give like services."

This is the spirit of determination and purpose of the Labour movement of our country (Mr. Gompers continued). "We have to ask ourselves whether the spirit of the Labour movement could live if it were possible for Kaiserism and militarism to dominate. The Labour movement represents the yearnings of the masses of the people."

In the United States of America the workers had made, by economic and political action, wonderful strides. He hoped the time would come in Great Britain, France, and Italy, and in conquered Germany, when they would recognise two fundamental laws passed in the United States of America. The first was the freedom not only of the seas, but of the seamen, and the other was that the labour of the human being was not a commodity or an article of commerce. Great appreciation was felt in America of the splendid service performed by the Seamen's Union in this cause of freedom. (Cheers.)

We of this Labour mission continued Mr. Gompers have come here for the purpose of endeavouring to unite the workers of Great Britain, of France, and of Italy, to stand together as one solid phalanx to make good the declaration of American Labour of March 12th, 1917. We who were pacifists before this war were in a twinkling transformed into fighting men, and it is our object to secure peace so that we may continue the future to secure the freedom of the world. (Cheers.)

GENERALSHIP OF GERMANS.

[BY MAJOR-GENERAL SIR FREDERICK MAURICE.]

This latest German defeat (August 18th) has brought the famous Hindenburg-Ludendorff combination into the same category as Falkenhayn and Moltke, and must for that reason give the German people furiously to think.

The German General Staff had, as a result of the victories of 1870, to which Germany owed her unity and in great measure also her commercial development, established itself in an apparently impregnable position. It was a wonderful training school for war, organized on a thoroughly sound system, and it produced a very perfect military machine. As it grew more and more powerful, the canker of Prussianism entered into its soul, and, ceasing to be the servant, it became the master of the State.

The German people, remembering what they owed to 1870, and seeing the results of the work of the General Staff in the efficiency of the German army, were in the main, content expecting victory as the result. More than forty years of strict discipline had prepared them for sacrifice in war, but always it has been necessary to dangle the prospect of victory before their eyes.

Once that prospect disappears, and it has become clear that the military party is incapable of fulfilling its promises, we may expect a rapid reaction. Already there have been signs that this reaction is beginning. Kuehlmann's outburst was the first indication, and now Herr Ballin and the commercials are following suit. Germany is in fact beginning to discover that her idol has feet of clay.

PLANS THAT MISERABLE.

The successes which Germany has won have not in fact been due to generalship, the leading of troops in the field, so much as to careful and thorough planning in the office. She entered the war not only with her naval and military forces, but with the whole nation prepared, thanks to the work of her General Staff. The General Staff had studied how to make use of Germany's central position, and began the war by completely surprising both the French and ourselves.

They threw at once against the Western front a much larger force than we had considered possible, carried the war into the heart of France, and established themselves in a position from which, after four years of effort, we have been unable to dislodge them. They first had the right kind of artillery and the right kind of explosives. When trench warfare became the rule they were first in the field with the new weapons which it necessitated.

All this and more, which it would be tedious to recapitulate here, were the fruits of sound organization, careful thought and good planning. The German General Staff gave their country a great start in the war, which we who were not prepared and not organized beforehand have ever since been painfully striving to catch up.

GERMANY'S WEAK POINT.

There is, however, a world of difference between good planning and good execution, for there is nothing absolute in war, in which the unforeseen is the rule. To snatch victory leadership is necessary, and the capacity to deal with the unexpected and to seize opportunities as they occur. This is the weak point in the German armour. Twice in 1914 good planning had created for the German leaders great opportunities, and twice the opportunities were let slip. Moltke's original plan aimed at the envelopment of the Allied armies in the west, and the theory of envelopment was carried to such an extreme that our expeditionary force was allowed to escape. Paris was let go when it was at the mercy of the invader, and von Kluck was compromised and forced to retreat.

Then came the second great attempt to get round the Allied left and reach the Channel ports, which had to be broken off when the scheduled date for moving eastwards against Russia was reached. Had Germany in the spring of 1915 pursued her original plan of holding off Russia and crushing us in the west before our new armies were ready for the field, and before our munition supply had developed, it is hard to see how we could have escaped.

GERMAN EASTERN.

Fortunately there was in Germany as well as in Britain an Eastern school, and fortunately the Easterns carried the day against the Westerners. The real goal of the ambition of the German military party has always been the creation of a Middle Europe block and the opening of the road to the East. Hindenburg and Ludendorff have been the chief apostles of this gospel, and, having achieved the fulfilment of a great part of their programme, they became the heroes of Germany.

Their doctrine was that it was first necessary to settle with Russia, to be supreme in the Balkans and to have secure communication with Turkey, and then it would be an easy matter to convince the Western Powers that it was hopeless to continue the war, or, if this failed, they would be crushed by turning against them the full military might of Germany.

The German people were told that the Kitchener Armies would be worthless, for new armies could not be created during a war. Then when the Kitchener Armies appeared and convinced even Germany of their worth, it was the submarines which were to bring Britain to her knees.

When that prophecy failed, when we were not only not starved in six months, but with America's help organized our food supply far more successfully than Germany, with all her boasted powers of organization, had managed to do the same was again changed. America had come into the war, but it was utterly impossible that America, with a far smaller standing army than Great Britain, should train armies in time to intervene, and even if she did they could not be transported to France; the submarines would see to that.

VICTORY IMPOSSIBLE.

One by one the Hindenburg-Ludendorff predictions have proved false, and it is just beginning to dawn upon Germany that the future to secure the freedom of the world. (Cheers.)

FLYING THE ATLANTIC.

PROPHECYING THE OBVIOUS.

The aviation correspondent of the Manchester Guardian writes:—

All the anticipations which are being so diligently fostered just now as to the possibility of flying the Atlantic appear to those who are on the inside of aeronautical affairs very much like prophecy—the obvious. From the point of view of international aeronautics it is quite good that so much public interest should be stirred up, but so far as encouraging the flying of the Atlantic is concerned no encouragement is needed, because everyone who is at all intimately connected with aviation has known for many months that a serious attempt would be made to fly the Atlantic this year.

Considered purely as a competitive event, the transatlantic flight may be considered as "off," because all aerial competitions in Great Britain are controlled by the Royal Aero Club by agreement with the National Aero Clubs of all other civilized countries, and the Royal Aero Club has very properly decided that no aerial competitions shall be held during the war. The reasons for this decision are, first, that everybody's attention should be directed to getting on with the war and should not be distracted by sporting events, and, secondly, that as all aircraft factories in this country are entirely under Government control it would be impossible for any British aeroplane manufacturer to set to work to build a machine specially for the transatlantic crossing. For, undoubtedly, if any of our manufacturers set out to design a special transatlantic machine it would differ materially from any existing type of service aeroplane, whether a seaplane or a land-flying machine.

However, in view of what has already been accomplished in the way of weight-lifting by existing long-range bombing machines, it has long been perfectly evident to aeroplane designers that any one of several such machines—for example, the big Handley Pages or the Vickers machine which was mentioned in print recently, or certain type of Avro which was built last year, not to mention the Italian Capronis and possibly one or two French machines—could fly the Atlantic merely by having special tanks fitted for the job and by carrying extra petrol instead of guns, gunners, ammunition, and bombs. One does not suggest that any one of these machines could be taken straight out of stock, that special tanks could be dropped into it, and that it could then be sent across the Atlantic; but with very little alteration it is possible to make it accommodate the big tanks with the minimum of extra weight, and with specially picked and tuned engines, any one of these machines would stand an excellent chance of getting across, and with a reasonable amount of organization in the way of ships stationed along the route to pick up the crew if the machine did fall on its voyage, there would actually be no risk to life at all. It is, therefore, the question of flying the Atlantic is purely a matter of slight alterations to existing service machines, a little trouble in tuning up the engines, and a certain amount of sea organization which would not even necessitate sending out special ships for the job, but merely arranging that ships already on certain duties should be at a certain place at a certain time. It would, of course, mean co-operation with the Admiralty, and it is possible that such co-operation might be hard to obtain, but in the event of its being obtained the whole problem is quite easy.

What is considerably more interesting is the proposal to fly big aeroplanes across the Atlantic regularly, so as to relieve the strain on shipping. When the Americans start turning out large long-distance bombing machines in earnest, the amount of shipping necessary to transport them in quantities to Europe will be considerable, and for very nearly a year the present writer has been in correspondence with experienced aeronautical people in the United States on the subject of flying the bombing fleets across, instead of taking up valuable shipping space with them. This scheme, again, only needs proper organization for it would be possible to pile up large stocks of aeroplanes at a chosen spot in Newfoundland ready to start on their eastward flight as soon as the signal was given that the weather was suitable the whole way across the Atlantic.

The number of ships needed to act as salvage craft along the route would be comparatively small, and, moreover, the type of ship used for such work would not be of such a class as to affect the world's carrying trade. Obsolete warships, for example, would do the work perfectly well, and would not only be able to save any aviators who fell into the sea, but with a proper arrangement of signals—chiefly kite balloons, one suggests—would actually indicate the correct course, so that there would be no need for special training of the aviators in navigation, as they would merely follow their signals as easily as they could follow the lamp-posts in Piccadilly.

that the war will be decided in the west, and that by dawdling in the east she has given her Western enemies, whom she has persistently underrated, time to organize such forces as make the long-for German victory impossible, and even make it necessary to think of the possibility of defeat.

The strength of Germany has lain in the soundness of the organization of the nation for war by the General Staff, and in the good military traditions in which the General Staff has been trained. Her weakness has been in the consistent failure of her military leaders to understand the psychology of their enemies, to appreciate their proper value, the military qualities of those enemies and to adapt themselves to circumstances.

Germany has had, in fact, a very fine machine directed by very ordinary men; and once she realizes that her heroes are no better than other mortals the whole fabric of confidence, which has enabled her to endure, will begin to crumble. That Hindenburg and Ludendorff have failed in the same way as Moltke failed in amongst the most pregnant of the events of this war.

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The Gymkhana Club are also pleased to be able to announce that cost of prizes and all expenses connected with these Gymkhanas will be borne without encroachment on the PERCENTAGES DEDUCTED FROM THE CASH SWEEPS AND PARI-MUTUEL WHICH WILL GO INTACT TO RED CROSS FUND.

[2562]

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[2563]

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